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Identical letters dated 18 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report for 18 December 2002 on the activities of the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Salman**
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Annex to the identical letters dated 18 December 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Daily report on the activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Daily activity report for Wednesday, 18 December 2002

1. IAEA inspection team

(a) One group, consisting of three inspectors, left the Canal Hotel at 0825 hours and proceeded to the Engineering Industries Institute (Ministry of Industry and Mining) in the Sayyidiyah area of Baghdad. It asked about the institute's activities and clients and checked its semi-annual declaration. It also checked a seal that had been placed on one of the machines. The group left the institute at 0950 hours and proceeded to the nearby Fida' State Enterprise, a Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC) company for hydraulic work. Its tour of inspection included all facilities, and it checked the machines subject to monitoring. The group left the enterprise at 1021 hours and at 1027 hours arrived at the State Automotive Enterprise's industrial engine plant (Ministry of Industry and Mining) in the Dawrah area of Baghdad. It inspected most of the machines in the workshop and checked their specifications. The group completed its assignment at 1103 hours and arrived at the Canal Hotel at 1130 hours.

(b) A second group, consisting of 15 inspectors, had spent the night of 17/18 December in Mosul. It left the hotel at 0830 hours, and at 0935 hours it arrived at the Saddam dam north of the city. It visited the water storage station and asked questions about it, inspected the site buildings, took swab samples, took readings with hand-held devices and, from a vehicle, conducted a radiometric survey within the site area. It finished its tour at 1345 hours, and at 1445 hours it arrived at the Jazirah irrigation project of the Ministry of Irrigation. It asked about the operating mechanism for the pumps and examined it, carried out an on-site radiometric survey and took swab samples. The assignment was completed at 1540 hours, and the group moved on to the MIC's Rimah project. It asked the plant manager about declared items, conducted a radiometric survey and took swab samples from various parts of the site. A smaller group went to the Ra'ikiyah gas plant and carried out a radiometric survey and took swab samples there. The assignment was completed at 1700 hours, and the group arrived at the hotel at 1720 hours.

2. UNMOVIC missile inspection team

The team divided into two groups.

One group, consisting of four inspectors, left the Canal Hotel at 0830 hours and proceeded to the Saqlawiyah conduit at Aqarquf, north of Baghdad. It reconnoitred a 2-kilometre section of the conduit. The group completed its assignment at 1015 hours and arrived at the Canal Hotel at 1115 hours.

The other group, consisting of six inspectors, left the Canal Hotel at 0835 hours and proceeded to a military site north of Baghdad where missile wreckage is stored. The group examined the stores and photographed the storage hangars. The same wreckage had been monitored by the former Special Commission. The assignment was completed at 1030 hours, and the group arrived at the Canal Hotel at 1105 hours.

3. UNMOVIC chemical inspection team

The team, consisting of 12 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel at 0835 hours. At 0900 hours it arrived at Al-Asbagh al-Hadithah, a mixed-sector company that produces many different kinds of paint in Za'faraniyah, one of Baghdad's southern suburbs. The team asked about any changes there had been since 1998, inspected the facilities and established coordinates for the main entrance. The team's assignment was completed at 1120 hours, and it arrived at the Canal Hotel at 1140 hours.

4. UNMOVIC multidisciplinary (chemical, missile and biological) inspection team

The team, consisting of 18 inspectors, left the Canal Hotel at 0835 hours. At 0910 hours it arrived at the Nasr State Enterprise, a mechanical engineering company belonging to the Ministry of Industry and Mining located some 30 kilometres north of Baghdad. It had been inspected in the past by the defunct Special Commission, and UNMOVIC and IAEA teams have inspected it several times since 27 November.

The team met with the general manager and asked about the nature of the enterprise and its activities. Its questions were answered. The team made a tour of inspection of the workshops for the fabrication of switches, [steel] structures and oil tanks as well as the foundry and presses. It checked the tagged equipment and Iraq's recent declarations, and it photographed all the facilities it visited and the wreckage of the machines destroyed in the United States and British aggression of December 1998. The assignment was completed at 1225 hours, and the team arrived at the Canal Hotel at 1310 hours.

5. UNMOVIC biological team

The team, consisting of 12 inspectors, had spent the night of 17/18 December in Mosul. At 0900 hours it proceeded to the Faculty of Sciences at Mosul University and visited its life sciences department and the adjacent buildings, namely the chemistry and mechanical engineering departments. The team asked about faculty and departmental projects and relationships with hospitals. It checked Iraq's recent declarations and the tagged equipment, and it took two bacterial samples from one of the laboratories. The team's assignment was completed at 1215 hours and it proceeded to another site.

At 1240 hours the team arrived at the Ministry of Industry and Mining's yeast plant in Mosul. It asked about the plant's activities, and its questions were answered. It checked the declarations and the tagged equipment and inspected the different sections of the plant. The team's assignment was completed at 1445 hours, and it arrived back at its hotel in Mosul at 1500 hours.

6. Remarks

1. As on previous days, inspection activities on 18 December were notably intensive and varied. Twelve sites in various parts of the country were visited, and 70 inspectors took part in inspection activities. As has been the case since 27 November, all inspections took place without prior notice to the Iraqi counterparts, and the Iraqi counterparts allowed immediate access to all the sites the teams wished to inspect.

2. Some of the sites inspected by teams on this day, including the Nasr State Establishment, were alleged in the report of British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the report of the United States Central Intelligence Agency to have been engaged in prohibited activities relating to weapons of mass destruction.